

S. RES. 480

Whereas the Senate has always honored the sacrifices made by the wounded and ill members of the Armed Forces;

Whereas the Silver Star Service Banner has come to represent the members of the Armed Forces and veterans who were wounded or became ill in combat in the wars fought by the United States;

Whereas the Silver Star Families of America was formed to help the people of the United States remember the sacrifices made by the wounded and ill members of the Armed Forces by designing and manufacturing Silver Star Service Banners and Silver Star Flags for that purpose;

Whereas the sole mission of the Silver Star Families of America is to evoke memories of the sacrifices made by members of the Armed Forces and veterans on behalf of the United States through the presence of a Silver Star Service Banner in a window or a Silver Star Flag flying;

Whereas the sacrifices made by members of the Armed Forces and veterans on behalf of the United States should never be forgotten; and

Whereas May 1, 2018, is an appropriate date to designate as "Silver Star Service Banner Day": Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of May 1, 2018, as "Silver Star Service Banner Day"; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe Silver Star Service Banner Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2239. Mr. McCONNELL (for Ms. MURKOWSKI) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2325, to incentivize the hiring of United States workers in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 2239.** Mr. McCONNELL (for Ms. MURKOWSKI) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2325, to incentivize the hiring of United States workers in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 21, line 25, strike "issued" and insert "requested".

On page 25, line 12, insert "with petitions filed with employment start dates" after "Beginning".

On page 31, line 8, strike "or".

On page 31, line 11, insert ", or otherwise ceases to operate as a legitimate business (as defined in clause (iv)(II))" before the semicolon.

On page 33, line 18, strike "and Commonwealth" and insert ", Commonwealth, and local".

On page 33, line 22, insert ", or knowingly benefit from," after "engage in".

On page 33, line 25, strike "or Commonwealth law; and" and insert ", Commonwealth, or local law;".

On page 34, line 3, strike "program." and insert "program;".

On page 34, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

"(ff) does not have, as an owner, investor, manager, operator, or person meaningfully involved with the undertaking, any individual who has been the owner, investor, manager, operator, or otherwise meaningfully involved with an undertaking that does

not comply with item (cc) or (dd), or is the agent of such an individual; and

"(gg) is not a successor in interest to an undertaking that does not comply with item (cc) or (dd)."

On page 35, line 12, insert "prior to the submission of a renewal petition on their behalf" after "30 days".

At the end of the bill, add the following:

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as specifically otherwise provided, this Act and the amendments made by this Act—

(A) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(B) shall apply to petitions for Commonwealth Only Transitional Workers filed on or after that date.

(2) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in the Secretary's discretion, may delay the effective date of any provision of this Act relating to Commonwealth Only Transitional Workers until the effective date of the interim final rule described in subsection (b), except for provisions providing annual numerical caps for such workers.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I have a request for one committee to meet during today's session of the Senate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committee is authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

#### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Monday, April 23, 2018, at 5 p.m., to hold a hearing.

#### NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 479, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 479) designating April 2018 as "National Donate Life Month."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 479) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MAY 1, 2018, AS "SILVER STAR SERVICE BANNER DAY"

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 480, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 480) expressing support for the designation of May 1, 2018, as "Silver Star Service Banner Day."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 480) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS U.S. WORKFORCE ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 354, S. 2325.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2325) to incentivize the hiring of United States workers in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Northern Mariana Islands U.S. Workforce Act".*

#### SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

*The purposes of this Act are—*

(1) to increase the percentage of United States workers (as defined in section 6(i) of the Joint Resolution entitled "A Joint Resolution to approve the 'Covenant To Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America', and for other purposes" (48 U.S.C. 1806)) in the total workforce of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, while maintaining the minimum number of workers who are not United States workers to meet the changing demands of the Northern Mariana Islands' economy;

(2) to encourage the hiring of United States workers into such workforce; and

(3) to ensure that no United States worker—

(A) is at a competitive disadvantage for employment compared to a worker who is not a United States worker; or

(B) is displaced by a worker who is not a United States worker.

#### SEC. 3. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6 of the Joint Resolution entitled "A Joint Resolution to approve